

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 06946 200759Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----096735 200809Z /13  
O 200740Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7248

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 06946

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3  
TAGS: OVIP (FUKUDA, TAKEO), PVOR, PINT, EFIS, JA, CH, UR  
SUBJECT: EXPECTATIONS FOR FUKUDA SUMMIT

1. I AM TOLD THAT IT IS PART OF SUMMIT RITUAL WHENEVER A PRIME MINISTER VISITS WASHINGTON TO SEARCH FOR FRESH VISIT THEMES AND VISIT JUSTIFICATION. AS IS APPARENT FROM SOME OF THE EMBASSY'S RECENT REPORTING, FUKUDA'S VISIT NEXT MONTH IS NO EXCEPTION. IN THIS CONTEXT, I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO A CONVERSATION LAST NIGHT BETWEEN FIVE OF OUR LANGUAGE OFFICERS AND SIX MIDDLE-BENCH LDP DIET MEMBERS FROM BOTH HOUSES, REPRESENTING AT LEAST THREE OF THE LDP FACTIONS.

2. THE DIET MEMBERS, AS MUCH OF THE POLITICAL WORLD HERE THIS PAST WEEK, WERE AGITATED ABOUT THE CHINESE FISHING FLEET INCURSION IN THE SENKAKUS. APART FROM SPECULATION ABOUT PRC MOTIVES, WHAT WAS MOST INTERESTING WAS THE WAY IN WHICH THEY RELATED THIS INCIDENT TO JAPAN'S RELATIONS WITH THE US AND THE FUKUDA VISIT. THEY POINTED OUT THAT THE CHINESE HAD MISCALCULATED JAPANESE NATIONAL SENTIMENT  
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JUST AS BADLY AS THE SOVIETS HAD IN REGARD TO THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES. THE LESSON FOR THE JAPANESE PEOPLE, THEY SAID, WAS THAT IT WAS NONSENSE TO BELIEVE THAT YOU COULD HAVE TRUE FRIENDSHIP WITH EITHER THE PRC OR THE USSR. REGARDLESS OF THEIR POSITION ON PARTICULAR ISSUES, INCLUDING SOME OF THE MORE AGGRAVATING TRADE PROBLEMS, THEY ASSERTED THAT MEMBERS OF THE LDP TO A MAN UNDERSTOOD MORE CLEARLY THAN

EVER THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS JAPAN'S ONLY TRUE FRIEND,  
A FEELING WHICH THEY FELT WAS SHARED BEYOND LDP RANKS.  
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3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WAS ESSENTIAL IN THEIR  
VIEW THAT JAPAN HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT FUKUDA WAS  
GENUINELY AND WARMLY WELCOME IN WASHINGTON AND THAT THE  
JAPANESE PEOPLE HAVE REAFFIRMED THROUGH THE VISIT THE  
RELIABILITY OF THE US ALLIANCE. ACCORDINGLY, IT WAS VITAL  
FOR THE JAPANESE FULLY TO UNDERSTAND THAT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS  
WERE ONLY PART OF THE PICTURE AND FOR THE PRESIDENT AND  
FUKUDA TO UNDERSCORE THE COMMONALITY OF OUR INTERESTS IN  
REGARD TO THE MAJOR WORLD ISSUES WHILE CLARIFYING THE  
DURABILITY OF THE US-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP AND THE SECURITY  
TREATY. IN THEIR VIEW IT WAS POSSIBLE IN THIS BROAD CON-  
TEXT AND BECAUSE OF THE STRENGTH OF US-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP  
FOR THE UNITED STATES TO PLACE ECONOMIC DEMANDS ON JAPAN,  
WHICH THEY FELT JAPAN HAD TO ACCEPT. THEIR ONLY FEAR WAS  
THAT IF US PRESSURE ON TRADE ISSUES GREW SO INTENSE THAT  
THE JAPANESE CAME TO RELATE IT TO THE POLITICAL HARRASSMENT  
AND PRESSURES THEY SO RESENTED ON THE PART OF CHINA AND  
THE SOVIET UNION IT COULD CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO OUR RE-  
LATIONS. AS A NUMBER OF THE DIET MEMBERS PUT IT, THANKS  
TO CHINESE AND SOVIET INSENSITIVITY, THE US WAS PRESENTED  
WITH AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY FURTHER TO SOLIDIFY OUR TIES  
AND THEY HOPED WE WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.  
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4. I AM SURE SIMILAR THOUGHTS HAVE OCCURRED TO YOU AND  
OTHERS IN WASHINGTON, BUT THOUGHT IT WORTH FLAGGING THESE  
COMMENTS FOR YOU, INASMUCH AS THEY WERE UNSOLICITED,  
SPONTANEOUS REMARKS, VOICED WITH AN ARDOR WE HAVE RARELY  
SEEN IN SUCH CONVERSATIONS. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN RELATIONS, VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** EXPECTATIONS FOR FUKUDA SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PINT, EFIS, JA, CH, UR, US, (FUKUDA, TAKEO)  
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